श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी : टैंक के बारे में क्या है पूछने का ?

श्री सीताराम केसरी : आप नहीं जानते, टैंक में ही सब कुछ है। ऐसे टैंक के बारे में पूछ रहा हूं...

श्री सभापति : आप उनको जवाब मत दीजिये, आप सवाल करिये।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : 1984 में यह परिकल्पना की गयी तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि तत्कालीन भारत सरकार ने युद्ध और आक्रमण को मद्देनजर रखते हुये मुख्य टैंक की परियोजना में जो धन आबंटित किया, क्या वह उचित व उतना ठीक था या नहीं ? यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, the answer to this question is that when the idea of MBT was thought of in this country, we had to take into account the fact that the best tank in the forefront of development would not be available in this country because the foreign countries have their own embargoes on passing on the best equipment. As a matter of fact, from experience it has been found that if you want the best, you must be equally higher up. So, as a competence-building project it started in 1972 at a very low production cost of Rs. 25 lakhs. But, with the lapse of time we have picked up information and technology from various other places and that is why all this has been put in so that the ultimate tank can come and by ultimate tank I mean a tank having all the facilities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But it may not be the ultimate afterwards.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: No, Sir. There is something called the saturation point in these things.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, I want your protection. मैंने आबंटन के संबंध में पूछा कि जो धन का आबंटन उस समय हुआ था वह उचित था ?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: If you want me to answer this question as to what happened twenty years ago, the possibility of building a tank with the money allotted was examined, probably, at that time, with the smaller appreciation of a big machine like this. ... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you can say that you require notice and you will communicate to him later. Now, the next Question. Question No. 120.

Recruitment in the Army from Villages

*102. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recruitment of Army personnel is being done through the Recruitment Boards created for this purpose;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have discontinued the practice of rural recruitment by the Recruiting Agencies visiting the villages and making on-the-spot selections;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to consider the recruitment of Army personnel through the Recruiting Agencies visiting the villages and selecting the prospective soldiers there; and

(f) if so, what are the details of this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Recruitment into the Army is made by a properly constituted Board of Officers, including independent members from the local Station/Formation. This is done to ensure objectivity and fairness. The Board consists of the

Recruiting Officers and two officers from the local Formation.

The recruitment from the rural areas continues to be made by the recruiting teams who carry out screeing of candidates at the stations visited. Presently, the Application System of Recruitment is being followed. Under this system, the applicants are required to submit their application forms to the Zonal Recruiting Office (ZRO) of the area. The Zonal Recruiting Offices, in turn issue Call Up Letters to candidates to report to a central place nearest to their residence. The recruiting teams then visit identified places on a given date and time and carry out the screening of the candidates who have been issued Call Up Letters. The recruiting tour is usually carried out at a place which is in close proximity to the place of domicile of the majority of the candidates called for screening. Candidates who are found fit after screening are instructed to appear for a written examination at the Branch Recruiting Office (BRO).

There are 12 Zonal Recruiting Offices (besides one Independent Recruiting Office in Delhi Cantonment) in the country. In addition, there are 71 Branch Recruiting Offices (BROs) spread all over the country. Each Recruiting Officer, on an average, undertakes two tours every month and through this process, almost the entire country, including the rural area, is adequately covered by the recruiting teams.

In the remote regions and in areas which are not easily accessible, a modified form of Application System has been introduced for the convenience of the candidates, especially in view of the inherent problems of communication. Under the modified system, the candidates fill up the application forms and hand these over to the recruiting teams. Subsequently, the screening of such candidates is carried out by the recruiting teams practically at the very doorsteps of the candidates. The Army continues to get the majority of the candidates from the rural areas.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: आदरणीय सभापति जी, रक्षा मंत्री और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जब शपथ ली थी उस समय देश में सरदी का मौसम था, उस समय उन्होंने टोपी और शेरवानी में शपथ ग्रहण की थी, लेकिन आश्चर्य है कि आज पूरे देश में गरमी है, देश जल रहा है और उनको इस बात का पता नहीं है। अभी भी वह टोपी और शेरवानी....

श्री सभापति : सवाल करो, उनकी टोपी से क्या ताल्लुक है ?

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: आदरणीय सभापति जी, एक नमूना यह है, टोपी के नीचे क्या है सवाल से पता चल रहा है ।

श्री सीताराम केसरी: क्या आपकी टोपी के नीचे मेरा उत्तर नही आया ? जो मैंने प्रश्न किया ।

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: जो सूचना है उसके आधार पर मेरा प्रश्न इससे संबंधित है । मेरी जो सूचना है उसके आधार पर अगर उन्होंने यह टोपी और शेरवानी उतारी तो प्रधानमंत्री पद से अलग होना कुछ लोगों ने बताया है तो मेरी जो शंका है वह इसका समाधान भी करें। आदरणीय सभापति जी, मेरे सवाल का आधा जवाब मिला है । आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मेरे सवाल का आधार जवाब मिला है। मेरा सवाल ए०बी०सी०डी० एफ० अलग-अलग पार्ट्स में है। सिर्फ़ ए० और बी० का आंसर आया और सी०डी०ई०एफ० का आंसर नहीं आया जो कि मेरा प्रमुख सवाल था । सवाल यह था कि क्या पहले रुरल रेक्रुटमेंट में जो रेक्रुटमेंट एजेंसी द्वारा गांव-गांव विजिट करके रेक्रुटमेंट करने की पद्धति थी, उसके द्वारा फौजी जवानों की सेलेक्शन होती थी वह आजकल तबदील कर दी गयी है ? उसकी जगह मुझे जो आंसर में बताया गया है वह यह है कि देश में 12 क्षेत्रीय

भर्ती कार्यालय हैं और 71 शाखा भर्ती कार्यालय हैं । इन के द्वारा सेलेक्शन की जा रही है । मैं जानना चाह रहा था कि जो विलिज टु विलिज जाकर रेक्रुटमेंट करने की पद्धति थी उसको आपने क्यों बंद कर दिया ? हम देख रहे हैं कि आज फ़ौज में जो रफ़-टफ़ जवानों की जरूरत होती है उसकी कमी महसूस की जा रही है । इसके अलावा जो आजकल की सेलेक्शन पद्धति है उसमें कुछ करप्शन की बातें सुनने में आ रही हैं । आप कृपया इस स्थिति से अवगत करायेंगे ?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, I would like to assure the Member that the recruitment in rural areas continues to be the dominant part of our input to the army. It is true that we have recruitment centres where now people apply. But once the applicant has been screened, the people go to the villages, into the houses and select people so that there is no need for the man to come all way to the recruitment centre. The recruitment is done in situ wherever the person lives. So, hon. Member need not fear about the possibility of recruitment from villages or rural areas. I do not know what the definition of rough, tough and burly jawans is. But I am glad to mention that they are not only rough and tough but they are more intelligent and they are even able to read and write which was not the case some years ago.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर : आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि विलिज-विलज जाकर, घर-घर जाकर चयन किया जाता है । लेकिन मैंने जो उत्तर देखा है उसमें इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है । उसमें कहा गया है कि जो नीयरेस्ट प्लेस होता है वहां कंडीडेट को बुलाया जाता है। पहले उनसे फ़ार्म भराये जाते हैं। फ़िर फ़ार्म चैक करके जो नीयरेस्ट प्लेस होता है उस पर उनको भेज दिया जाता है । अगर मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि घर-घर जाकर सेलेक्शन करते हैं तो इसमें उल्लेख क्यों नहीं है । मैं इसका क्लेरीफ़िकेशन चाहूंगा । मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि मैंने जो दूसरी बात कही थी कि सेलेक्शन में करप्शन की बातें सुनने में आयी हैं, मेरे पास कोई तथ्य उपलब्ध नहीं हैं लेकिन इसकी चर्चा है, तो इसका आप खुलासा करें ? अगर बात सही है तो प्रजेंट सिस्टम जो भर्ती का है उसमें परिवर्तन करने की कोई योजना आप के दिमाग में है या नहीं ? क्या इसके लिए जो भर्ती अधिकारी होते हैं और उनकी जो किसी एक स्थान पर नियुक्ति की समय सीमा होती है उसमें परिवर्तन करने की कोई जरुरत रखते हैं ?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: To be a little more clear, I will say, in remote regions, in areas which are not easily accessible candidates are required to fill up application forms and hand them over to the recruiting teams. Subsequently, screening of such candidates is carried out by the recruiting teams, practically at the door-steps of the candidates. This is the thing I want to pass on to him. In remote areas, there is an attempt to make the thing as easy as possible

With respect to the second question of corruption, we always hear about corruption. Sometimes it happens, sometimes it does not. When we get information that there is corruption, only then we can take action. Otherwise it is not possible. But we will have to accept his word in regard to this. But when you have got actual proof, immediately action is taken and I have seen it.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: सभापति महोदय, हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी के उत्तर में फ़र्क है । मैंने जो हिन्दी में उत्तर पढ़ा है उसके पढ़ने से यह जाहिर होता है उसमें कहीं नहीं लिखा कि घर-घर जाकर उनका सेलेक्शन किया जाता है । इसमें उल्लेख करना चाहिए था ।

श्री सभापति : अंग्रेजी में पढ़ लेते ।

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: मंत्री जी जो यह कह रहे हैं कि घर-घर जाकर सेलेक्शन

किया जाता है तो क्या यह बात गलत है । क्योंकि आप हिन्दी समझते हैं इसलिए आपका प्रोटक्शन चाहता हूं । इसमें लिखा है "भर्ती दल सामान्यत: ऐसे स्थान पर भर्ती करने के लिए जाता है जो अधिकांश उम्मीदवारों के घर के बहुत नजदीक पड़ता हो ।"

श्री सभापति : घर घर जाकर पहले भी नहीं होता था, लेकिन करीब से करीब जाने की बात उन्होंने कही है ।

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह ठाकुर: आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, पहले तो गांवों में जाते थे, बुलाते थे और सामने ही टेस्ट होते थे । यह जो प्राब्लम करप्शन की सुनने को मिलती है वह नहीं मिलती थी । मैं तो कह रहा था कि वही सिस्टम फिर से शुरू हो और उसकी भी अगर मंशा नहीं हो तो कम से कम जो हो रहा है वह तो बतायें ।

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: I just want to say that the spirit with which this is done is to simplify the whole recruitment process. So it is available to a wide area where the jawans come from. I think this is the spirit, whereas whether it is from door to door or from one door to every other door is a matter of detail which we need not discuss here.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: About the recruitment in the Army during the British days the Government used to subscribe to the view to muscle race. Now, Sir, a radical change is taking place in the country. Now it is from a certain community or communities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Army people come from different regions or different States. What steps are taken by the Government to see that there are daring people recruited in the Army? I would like to know the total recruitment made by the different zones? What was the percentage of the local people recruited by these zones? That itself is an index about the functioning of the zone, whether they are actually paying attention to the local people, because there are reports that the army recruitment officers are recruiting people from certain communities.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, this is a slight deviation from the main question, because region-wise, I do not think, there is a list which I have seen. However, I would like to say that every regional recruitment board has to recruit uniformly all over the country. There are minimum physical standards. For instance, for the western Himalayas we have a certain height, chest and weight. Similar is the case with eastern Himalayas, so that discrimination does not come about by saying that there is common height for everybody. And I can say the same thing about the central region and southern region. It is remarkable that there are variations. But variations are provided so that there is no discrimination taking place. Every effort is being made to standardise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All regions are properly represented.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether the share of Punjab and Tamil Nadu has declined in the recruitment and, if so, the reasons for the same.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: I do not have the statistics. But I do not think that there have been any big changes in the recriutment from the States he has mentioned. As a matter of fact, there has been an increase.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will you give a specific answer in writing, and not privately but publicly? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, the recruitment policy stipulates that all citizens of India, irrespective of caste, class, religion and community will be eligible for recruitment in the armed forces. It lays down the physical, medical and educational qualifications required.

That is our basic principle. All citizens of India are eligible. Now, one thing has been taken care of, which is not based on caste or religion. Recruitment in the army is done in proportion to 'recruitable male population' of a State. The term 'recruitable male population' means 10 per cent of the total number of males in the age group of 16 to 22 years in each State. So each State gets a fair representation.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Why did the Minister say: I do not konw the answer? (*Interruptions*).

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति महोदय, मैंने गढ़वाल के एक नौजवान को फ़ौज में भर्ती के लिये भेजा था । वह नौजवान गढ़वाल का था। पहले तो उससे यह कहा गया कि तुम्हें गढ़वाल रेजीमेंट में लिया जा सकता है और कहीं नहीं । दूसरी बात यह कही गई कि जो मैट्रीकुलेट नहीं हैं उन्हें फ़ौज में भर्ती नहीं किया जायेगा । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि देश में करोड़ों नौजवान ऐसे हैं जिन्हें मैट्रिक तक पढ़ने का मौका नहीं मिला है तो क्या उन्हें सिपाही की नौकरी से भी वंचित किया जायेगा ?

श्री सभापति: क्या सिफ़ारिशी नौकरी ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सिपाही की नौकरी ।

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Generally the educational standard required is matriculation. But for general duties specified in thirty trades it is upto 5th standard.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी सभापति जी, क्या सरकार का यह कहना है कि जो लड़का मैट्रिक पास नहीं है वह लड़ाई के मैदान में ठीक से लड़ नहीं सकता ।

श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह : नहीं फिफ्थ स्टैंडर्ड के लिये भी एक कैटेगरी है ।

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there has been any significant drop in recruitment post-Operation Bluestar and post-Bofors scandal that has come up. (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is not about Bofors. Please put your question.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I want to know whether there has been a significant drop in recruitment all over India. How much budget allocation has the Defence Ministry asked for media telecast in order to try to communicate with the people countrywide appealing to them to join the services? How much are you spending for attracting people to join the Armed Forces?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House that there is no shortage of people volunteering to join the services. This is a definite fact. I think just to make a reference to Bofors or to anything else is not a suitable method to plan our programmes.

National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration's document on Education

*103. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:†

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) has prepared a document on Education for all by 2000 A.D., making special provisions for educating girls and women;

(b) if so, what are the major observations and suggestions made in the document; and

(c) what is Government's attitude towards adopting the same?

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†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare.